Express Mail No. EL 507 832 815 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:		Brown, et al.
Serial No.	:	08/621,631
Filed	:	March 26, 1996
For	:	Recovery of Metal Values
Art Unit	:	2204
Examiner	:	Miller, E.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a copy of the following document for filing in the above-identified application:

Election in Response to Restriction Requirement

The Commissioner is also hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 16-1435. A duplicate of this transmittal is attached for that purpose.

Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16.
Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

4-14-00
Date

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PATENT
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Election

Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed February 15, 2000 in the above-identified application.

Amendments

In the Claims: please add new claim 22 as follows:

22. (New) A process for selectively extracting a scandium metal value from an ore residue from a tantalum production process which includes fluorine, scandium and one or more solubilizable metal values, the solubilizable metal values including tantalum or niobium metal values, the process comprising:

reacting the ore residue with a sulfuric acid solution to solubilize at least a portion of the tantalum or niobium metal values from the ore residue and produce an undissolved material;

separating the undissolved material;

reacting the undissolved material with sulfuric acid for a period of time, and under temperature and pressure conditions sufficient to liberate hydrogen fluoride gas and to generate a sulfated material;

leaching the sulfated material in water to solubilize at least a portion of the scandium metal values contained therein and generate an aqueous solution comprising said solubilized